

**OFFICE OF CONGRESSMAN EARL BLUMENAUER
APPROPRIATIONS REQUEST FORM
FISCAL YEAR 2011**

Project Details

1. Project title:

ORCATECH – The Oregon Center for Aging and Technology

2. Organization name and address (the recipient of the funds):

Oregon Health & Science University
3181 SW Sam Jackson Park Road
Portland, OR 97239

3. Contact information

Oregon Contact:

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Project location (if different than organization's address): The current ORCATECH research network in the Portland area would be expanded and carried out in 100 seniors' homes (yet to be recruited) throughout Oregon in 5 clusters.

4. Please describe the requesting organization's main activities.

Oregon Health & Science University is the state's only health and research university, and Oregon's only academic health center. OHSU is Portland's largest employer and the fourth largest in Oregon (excluding government), with 12,417 employees. OHSU's size contributes to its ability to provide many services and community support activities not found anywhere else in the state. It serves 210,000 patients annually, and is a conduit for learning for more than 4,100 students and trainees. OHSU is the source of more than 200 community outreach programs that bring health and education services to every county in the state.

As a leader in research, OHSU earned \$307.1 million in research funding in fiscal year 2009. OHSU serves as a catalyst for the region's bioscience industry and is an incubator of discovery, averaging one new breakthrough or innovation every three days, with more than 4,100 research projects currently under way. OHSU research has resulted in 37 new spinoff companies since 2000, most of which are based in Oregon.

5. Is this organization a public, private non-profit, or private for-profit entity?

Public

6. From what federal agency and account are you requesting funds (Please be specific –e.g., Department of Housing and Urban Development, Economic Development Initiatives account)?

Department of Health and Human Services: HRSA Telehealth and Health Information Technology

7. Briefly describe the activity or project for which funding is requested (no more than 500 words).

The challenges of caring for the aged require new approaches to sustaining their health. Evolving home-based technologies such as unobtrusive activity monitoring, medication taking assurance systems, sleep health monitors, and chronic disease management programs can revolutionize our ability to remain healthy and independent. ORCATECH seeks to grow investment in, and remove barriers to the fundamental science, the translational research, and the business startup breakthroughs possible in all these areas. Our goal is to sustain Oregon's lead in this area nationally, engaging academics and companies so as to become a leader in shaping and benefiting from this independent living technology industry. Oregonians and society as a whole will benefit immensely from both a financial standpoint (billions of dollars; hundreds of jobs), as well as the quality of life found in maintaining independence.

We request support to transition ORCATECH's unique home-based independent-living research model – called the "Living Lab" - into a state-wide network dedicated to establishing the evidence that technology can be used to allow Older Americans to "age in place." A prototype of 230 homes has been created in Portland. Building on this experience, we will establish the first statewide version of this system for both academic and industry research. The proposed network would comprise 5 clusters of 20 technology-enabled homes throughout Oregon covering key constituencies (rural, urban, ethnic minorities, and socioeconomic diversity). The statewide "Living Laboratory" of technology-enabled homes would provide a scalable, flexible test-bed for scientific, clinical, behavioral, and economic research into independent living technologies.

8. What is the purpose of the project? Why is it a valuable use of taxpayer funds? How will the project support efforts to improve the economy and create jobs in Oregon?

As America ages, it is increasingly faced by the challenge of how to sustain health and independent living among its older citizens. This project seeks to help address that challenge through the use of evolving home-based technologies such as unobtrusive activity monitoring, medication taking assurance systems, sleep health monitors, and chronic disease management programs. If successful, this project will not only help improve quality of life for older Oregonians and other Americans, but should also result in cost savings to the health care system (Medicare, Medicaid, etc.) In regards to supporting Oregon's economy, industry is interested in using this network of *in situ* homes for rapidly prototyping new products, such as software or informational call-centers for home-health management. Should these products prove effective, hundreds of jobs are likely to be created with such product manufacturing. Hundreds of additional health care jobs will likely be created as a result of a new in home health care delivery model that would develop.

9. Has this project received federal appropriations funding in past fiscal years?

No.

9a. If yes, please provide the fiscal year, Department, Account, and funding amount of any previous funding.

Funding Details

10. Amount requested for this project: \$800,000

11. Breakdown/budget of the amount you are requesting for this project (e.g., salary \$40,000; computer \$3,000):

- Statewide Coordination Infrastructure: \$325,000
(Statewide coordinator, Broadband/Internet, database management, software updates and networking)
- Equipment for 100 Homes (sensors, computers): \$200,000
- Regional (5 Districts) Support Personnel: \$275,000
(technical support, home set-up/maintenance, health assessment)

12. What is the total cost of the project?

\$1,150,000

13. Is this project scalable (i.e., If partial funding is awarded, will the organization still be able to use the funds in FY 2011)?

Yes. The total number of technology enabled clusters of homes could be reduced according to the funds available.

14. What other funding sources (local, regional, state) are contributing to this project or activity? (Please be specific about funding sources and funding amounts)

In FY 2010 Intel is contributing \$250,000. It is currently considering funding for FY 2011, subject to the economy and company finances at the time of authorization.

15. Please list public or private organizations that have supported/endorsed this project.

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